



December 2010

The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter
Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

www.ebcnps.org

www.groups.google.com/group/ebcnps

Don't forget to contribute to the Conservation Analyst Fund in Time for a 2010 Tax Deduction

Remember that contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Contributions made by 12/31/10 can be deducted on your 2010 return.

Laura Baker

CONSERVATION FUND APPEAL OFF TO ROARING START

Thanks to the generosity of our donors listed below, we have raised \$22,583, more than half of our goal of \$35,000 to support our chapter's Conservation Analyst. Their donations are recognition of how critical our Conservation Analyst is to the effectiveness of our conservation program, enabling us to track dozens of projects in our two-county chapter area with the help of our committee volunteers. Be sure to read in this *Bay Leaf* issue about our progress in fighting the casino at Point Molate and visit our conservation blog at www.ebcnps.wordpress.com/ to read about the kinds of issues that this funding supports.

We need your help to get to our goal! If you believe protecting native flora is important, there is no better investment of your conservation dollars than donating to the C.A. fund.

This is the only time during the year that we ask for your help in supporting our half-time Conservation Analyst position. Please remember that we receive no financial assistance from your membership dues for this position. By making a donation to this program, you are letting us know how much you value the protection of our East Bay native flora.

We are grateful to the following donors for their contributions to the Conservation Analyst Fund as of November 8th. Note: we are updating our membership list to be sure that it reflects those individuals in families that wish to be identified. If we have inadvertently omitted a family member or partner, please contact Membership Co-Chairs, Elaine Worthington-Jackson (elainejx@att.net) or Carol Castro (carollbcastro@hotmail.com) to correct the listing. Thank you!

Donors to the 2010 Conservation Analyst Fund as of November 8th: Anonymous, John Alcorn, Lisa Ann Anich, Elly and William Bade, Laura Baker and Lewis Lubin, Joe Balciunas, Laura Beckett, Robert Berman, David Bigham and Howard

Arendtson, Liz Bittner, Terry Blair, Susan Blanc, Peter Boffey, Richard Bogaert, Barbara Brandiff, Martha Breed, Mary Breunig, Shelagh and Robert Broderson, John Callaway, Robert Case, R. Coats, Patricia Coffey, Carol and Robert Coon, Marjory Craig, Charlice and John Nielsen, Adrienne DeBisschop, Susan Deming, Arthur Dunlop, Christopher Erickson, Holly Forbes and Gerald Ford, Norman Frank, Jutta and Gordon Frankie, Claire Gilbert, Marilyn and Amos Goldhaber, Paul Grunland, Judith Gurbaxani, Jessica Hamburger, Mary Ann Hannon, Marguerite Harrell, Mary Ellen Harte, Miao He, Claudia and Scott Hein, Ken Himes, Peter Hopkinson, Grace Hyde, Ashok Jethanandani and Arvind Kumar, Barbara and Larry Jones, Susan and Edwin Katibah, Jane and Tom Kelly, Julie Kinder and Kristi Jue, Arti Kirch, Gudrun Kleist and James Morel, Jill Korte, Kathy Kramer, Watson Laetsch, Eve Lednický, Barbara and Phil Leitner, David and Evelyn Lennette, Edmond Leong, Milo Linaman, Vera Lis, David Loeb, Cinda Mackinnon, Matt Madison, Joan Margaret, William and Karen McClung, Shirley McPheeters, Christina McWhorter, Jon Merkle, Louise Miller, Lynn Miller, Mary Millman, Gregory Moore, Laurie Morrison, Brian Napolitan, Lech Naumovich, Betty Nelson, Linda Newton, Richard O'Donnell, Anne and Charles Olsen, Elizabeth O'Shea, Lisa and Andrew Paterson, Anita Pearson, Barbara and Thomas Preston, Margaret Ricker, Gene Rochlin, Judy Schwartz, Susan Schwartz, Brenda Senturia, Mary Shea, Shirley Mae and Igor Skaredoff, Suzanne Skrivanich, Anne Smith, Jennifer Smith, Lincoln Smith, Elizabeth Sojourner, Nicki Spillane, Malcolm Sproul, Ruth and Donald Stiver, Emilie Strauss, Ted Tawshunsky, Delia and John Taylor, Carol Thornton, Laurie Umeh, Jeanne Walpole, Leslie Webster, Berthold Weis, Karen Wetherell, Joseph and Doris Willingham, Christina Wistrom and Jeremy Thorsness, Susan Lepore Wijeyesekera, Tamara Wood, Elaine Worthington-Jackson, Roberta Zorzynski.

RICHMOND VOTERS SAY NO TO CASINO AT POINT MOLATE

By now, you've heard the good news—Richmond residents defeated Measure U, the developer-backed referendum that asked citizens to vote on whether to approve a casino at Point Molate. Voters turned out to make clear their opposition to the casino. And they elected city council candidates that give the anti-casino members a majority on the council.

We stood alone among environmental groups in opposing Measure U. You can read our open letter to the community that expressed our concerns (visit our conservation blog at www.ebcnps.wordpress.com/). Our support of the grassroots opposition to the casino did not go unnoticed. Here are a few of the comments that people sent to us after the election:

From Richmond citizens: Thank you from Richmond for your courage...your open letter laid out the facts perfectly.

Thank you for speaking truth to power, and for explaining the mystery of what the hell has been going on behind the scenes... Since you are not afraid to tell the truth, tell us more.

I am proud to be a member of a group that can think for itself.

And from within CNPS: *Excuse the informality, but your chapter rocks!*

The defeat of Measure U was founded on years of advocacy for Point Molate. Credit for spearheading our chapter's effort goes to Lech Naumovich, our Conservation Analyst. Over the past years he has worked tirelessly to bring to the public the message that Point Molate is a regional treasure blessed with an abundance of irreplaceable natural resources that need to be protected. He attended public meetings, wrote a detailed analysis of the Environmental Impact Report on the casino, lobbied city council members, led field trips to Point Molate, spoke with the media, and worked with grassroots groups like Citizens for a Sustainable Point Molate to support their organizing efforts.

We also thank our donors who have supported the Conservation Analyst position. Without the money to support our half-time staff person, we could not have engaged so fully in fighting such an enormously complex project. And it's not over yet. Stay tuned.

Laura Baker

SAN RAMON VOTERS CRUSH MEASURE W

The residents of San Ramon celebrated a landslide victory when they voted overwhelmingly against Measure W which called for expanding the Urban Growth Boundary. Measure W asked residents whether they wanted to extend city limits into the bucolic rolling hills of the Tassajara Valley. Over 71% of the voters rejected the measure. Save Mount Diablo and Greenbelt Alliance helped raise over \$60,000 for the San Ramon Residents Opposed to Measure W, a local group that disseminated information about the proposed city expansion.

Congratulations and thanks to the residents for their efforts in helping to protect Tassajara Valley, one of the East Bay Chapter's Botanical Priority Protection Areas.

Lech Naumovich

Read our Conservation Blog at www.ebcnps.wordpress.com/

MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE

December: there will be no meeting (Happy Holidays!)

woodlands to freshwater tidal wetlands

January 26, 2011:
Carol Rice and Cheryl Miller
Going fire safe and native

March 23, 2011: Ralph and Lisa Shanks
California Indian baskets: New findings in anthropology and botany

February 23, 2011: Alison Whipple
Exploring components of the historical landscape: From oak

Sue Rosenthal

Erratum from November Bayleaf: incorrect web address for Vaqueros Farm photos.

In the article **Field Trip Report: Vaqueros Farms North**, we used a picture by Bob Sikora of *Holocarpha virgata*, and sent readers to his website for more photos. But we mis-entered the web address. The correct web address for more Vaqueros Farms photos is <http://bobsikora.smugmug.com>.

RESTORATION PROJECTS

Sunday December 5, 9:00 am Restoration Crew to Sibley Regional Park

Janet Gawthrop is returning to start removing poison hemlock sprouts and French broom from the trail leading north of the Sibley parking lot. Much of the trail from Sibley to Tilden still has intact oak-bay woodland vegetation, so we will confine our efforts to the more disturbed soil in the first 100 meters north of the parking lot. If you need gloves or tools, or have other questions, please send an e-mail to janetgawthrop4@gmail.com.

Saturday December 11, 9:30 am Restoration Crew to Huckleberry Regional Preserve

Join us at the Huckleberry parking lot to sign in and maybe carpool to the worksite. As the soil gets muddier, we will likely shift worksites away from steep slopes but continue to target *Myosotis*, *Vinca*, and cape ivy. Sometimes we get a December bonus of the earliest pallid manzanitas flowering.

Directions (to both worksites): From Highway 13, exit at Park Boulevard and turn uphill at the traffic light at the end of the ramp. Turn left onto Mountain Blvd. so you proceed north, parallel to 13. Turn right (uphill again) at the traffic light for Snake and Mountain, and follow Snake uphill all the way to its end at the intersection with Skyline. Turn left onto Skyline and follow it north. Huckleberry will be the first parking lot on your right, and the Sibley parking lot is also on the right side, about another half mile north on Skyline.

Janet Gawthrop



These photos, by Bob Sikora (<http://bobsikora.smugmug.com>) are from a recent Sibley restoration. Above we see Janet Gawthrop and others at work; below, the leaves and berries of honeysuckle (*Lonicera hispida*), one of the natives these restoration projects preserve.

FIELD TRIP

Field trip Sunday, January 2, 2:00 pm, to Huddart County Park to see Fetid Adder's Tongue

Location: Huddart County Park, 1100 Kings Mountain Road, Woodside (San Mateo County) California. Meet in the parking lot just past the pay station.

David Margolies (510-654-0283, 510-393-1858 (cell) divaricatum@gmail.net) will lead a hike on the Crystal Springs Trail where *Scoliopus bigelovii* (fetid adder's tongue, Liliaceae) blooms in early January. (In most locations outside botanical gardens, it blooms in late January or early February.) This is a gentle trail, losing about 200 feet over about 1/2 mile to the creek. We will walk to the creek and then return the same way. It is unlikely that there will be any other flowers out this early, but the fetid adder's tongue's presence tells us that the

new flower season has started. (Other plants out of flower will also be identified.) The area is second growth redwood and mixed evergreen forest.

How to get there: Go to Woodside: cross the Bay Bridge, get on I-280 south and take it to the 84 west/Woodside Road exit. Go west through the town of Woodside. Soon after the main part of the town, take a right onto Kings Mountain Road. The park entrance is on the right after a few miles. Go past the pay station into the main parking lot. We will meet there. Note that you must pay the parking fee even if the station is not staffed (use the envelopes provided). Note: There is poison oak in the park. Poison oak is dangerous even when it has no leaves. Stay on the trail. It will probably be muddy and may be raining. Be prepared. The walk will take place rain or shine.

CHAPTER ELECTIONS

We are very pleased to announce the Nominees for East Bay Chapter Officers, 2011. A ballot is included with the December, 2010 *Bay Leaf*.

Please mail the ballot back so it arrives by January 8, 2010.

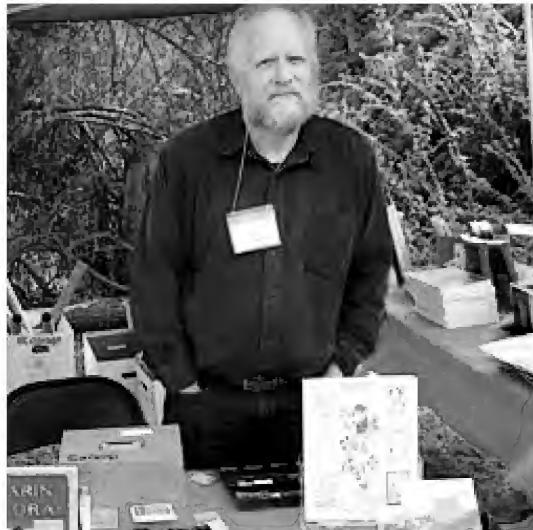
Please vote and consider how you can help them out this year. Make it your New Year's Resolution!



David Bigham, nominee for President (shown in a photo by Harold Arendtson), is a U. C. Berkeley trained Landscape Architect with a forty year Bay Area practice. He has been a member of CNPS since the late 1960's and was chapter president in the 1980's. He has a great interest in chapter conservation activism and amateur field botany.



Bill Hunt is our current Vice President and nominee for 2011 (shown in Alaska with his wife, Lesley). He has a PhD in chemistry and has made a career writing about computers and software. Now retired, he and his wife Lesley have been active in Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation for many years. They take regular spring wildflower trips and nature-oriented vacations. Bill is a good photographer, check out his photos at www.naturelover.smugmug.com



David Margolies is our current Treasurer and nominee for 2011 (shown selling books at the plant fair, photo by Joe Willingham). He is a mathematician who works for a computer software company. He has been interested in plants and botany for many years and often leads field trips for our chapter.



Tina Wistrom, nominee for Recording Secretary (shown in a photo by Theresa Wistrom), has been a member of CNPS since 2009 and is a sporadic but enthusiastic volunteer at Native Here Nursery. She enjoys helping customers at the plant fair time, and assisting with administrative tasks like inventory and the nursery Facebook page. Record-keeping is also an important part of her current job as a staff research associate at UC Berkeley studying insect transmitted plant

diseases. She currently lives in El Cerrito with her husband, Jeremy, and 2-year-old daughter, Evelyn.

Christine Pyers, nominee for Corresponding Secretary (shown on the right in a self portrait), is a landscape designer and furniture maker. Coming to native plants from a design perspective, Christine creates native gardens for contemporary spaces. She received a BFA in Wood/Furniture from the California College of Arts and Crafts, revels in discovering bugs, birds and plants in the wild, and can be found at [www.idoradesign.com](http://idoradesign.com).



NATIVE HERE

December is always a good time to plant natives in our two county area. We have a lot of shrubs in two gallon cans that will really take off when planted in gardens this winter.

Not too many people made it all the way to our Livermore/Mines Road collection during the Plant Fair. There are lovely redberry *Rhamnus ilicifolia* and lots of columbine *Aquilegia formosa* that would be great in a Livermore garden. It is worth the drive in from Livermore to the nursery to check out the selection.

Other gems in the nursery this winter include chinquapin *Chrysolepis chrysophylla* from the Oakland hills, and a few tiny huckleberry plants. I recall marveling at those plants on the Huckleberry Path walks that the late Paul Covell and Marian

Reeve would lead each winter when they were still with us. There are many sedges throughout the nursery, too.

Because two holidays fall on Saturdays, the nursery will be open this month on Sunday, December 12 and Sunday, December 19 for your shopping convenience. A plant, book, the CD East Bay Native Plants, birdhouse or plant markers might make a terrific gift for a friend or neighbor. Maybe you have a friend in Livermore who would like some columbine.

The nursery is in Tilden Park on the Berkeley side, 101 Golf Course Drive, Berkeley, CA 94708. Phone us at 510 549-0211 or e-mail questions to nativehere@ebcnps.org

Charli Danielsen

Congratulations Richmond residents on the defeat of Measure U!

You have spoken up for plant conservation.

The chapter would like to celebrate your appreciation of your local flora by offering Richmond residents half price on your purchase of Richmond section plants (Pt. Molate, Pt. Pinole, Miller-Knox, Richmond, El Sobrante and Pinole) during the month of December.

This discount will not apply to purchases of plants from other places, or to books or other merchandise.

Congratulations San Ramon residents for the defeat of Measure W!

You have spoken up for plant conservation.

The chapter would like to celebrate your appreciation of your local flora by offering San Ramon residents half price on your purchase of Mt Diablo and Pleasanton plants during the month of December.

This discount will not apply to purchases of plants from other places, or to books or other merchandise.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Meet Jessica Davenport

I am a California native, but I grew up on the East Coast, eventually getting a master's degree in watershed management from the Yale School of Forestry. After two years of studying New England forests, I reveled in my recognition of dozens of native species of trees and flowers. A walk in the woods was like a party with old friends. On returning to California in 1998, however, I was faced with anonymous crowds of vegetation. On my hikes in the East Bay hills, I would be lucky to recognize even the redwood trees in Redwood Regional Park.

My obsession with learning the names of California native



Jessica Davenport on Mount Diablo, photo by Lisa Anich.

plants began when I became a watershed coordinator for Mount Diablo Creek in central Contra Costa County in 2005. My co-worker Carla Koop, a CNPS member, had just taken a hike up Mount Diablo and had taken pictures of all the spring wildflowers. I was impressed with the beauty of flowers and her photography, but mostly I was amazed that she knew all the names of the plants, both common and Latin. From that point on, I followed up each hike with a perusal of the wildflower field guides to try to identify what I had seen, from Mount Diablo fairy lanterns (*Calochortus pulchellus*) and Chinese houses (*Collinsia heterophylla*) to buck brush (*Ceanothus cuneatus*) and black sage (*Salvia mellifera*).

Carla encouraged me to join CNPS, and we began attending field trips, membership meetings and plant sales together, eventually becoming close friends.

While working to promote awareness and protection of Mount Diablo Creek and its watershed, particularly the portion running through the former Concord Naval Weapons

Station, I met CNPS Conservation Analyst Lech Naumovich and Conservation Chair Laura Baker, who were interested in conserving plant communities there. I accompanied them and botanist Dianne Lake on a field trip to survey the base, getting to know a few more native plants, like telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), as well as these native plant enthusiasts.

In 2007, I took a job at the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC). This gave me the opportunity to get to know a whole new cast of native plant characters, from salt grass (*Distichlis spicata*) to gum plant (*Grindelia stricta*). I also got to meet many of my heroes in the world of wetland restoration, such as Phyllis Faber.

Although I will never learn all the names of California native plants, or get the chance to meet all the dedicated people who help to conserve and restore their habitats, I now feel surrounded by friendly faces, both plant and human. In my work at BCDC, which focuses on promoting adaptation to climate change, I look forward to doing my part to protect the incredibly beautiful and diverse natural world that we share.

New Members

Please join us in welcoming our new members for the October time frame, Mark Mendelsohn, Rachel Zimbrick, & Arielle Halpern.

As always, a huge thank you to our renewing members.

Think Globally, Volunteer locally

Elaine Jackson (elianejx@att.net ~ 925-372-0687)



Another photo by Bob Sikora (<http://bobsikora.smugmug.com>) from a recent Sibley restoration (see page 3). This one shows the leaves of Yerba Buena.

Chapter Directory

Officers

President

Delia Barnes Taylor
510-527-3912
deliataylor@mac.com

Vice President and Chapter Council Delegate

Bill Hunt
wjhunt@astound.net

Recording Secretary

Carol Castro
510-352-2382
carolbcastro@hotmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Janet Gawthrop
janetgawthrop47@gmail.com

Treasurer

David Margolies
510-654-0283
dm@franz.com

Committees

Bayleaf Newsletter

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Conservation

Laura Baker, Chair 510-849-1409 Lbake66@aol.com Conservation analyst Lech Naumovich conservation@ebcnps.org Conservation Blog at www.ebcnps.wordpress.com/

Funds Development

Carol Castro, Chair Grant Management Sally de Becker 510-841-6613 sallydebecker@comcast.net

Field Trips

Janet Gawthrop, Chair

Information Infrastructure

Peter Rauch, Chair peterar@berkeley.edu

Membership

Elaine Jackson, Carol Castro
Co-Chairs
Volunteer coordinator
Delia Taylor
volunteer@ebcnps.org

Programs

Sue Rosenthal, Chair rosacalifornica@earthlink.net

Publicity

(vacant)

Rare Plants

Heath Bartosh, Chair 925-957-0069 hbartosh@nomadecology.com

Bryophytes

John Game 510-527-7855 jcgame@stanford.edu

Unusual Plants

Dianne Lake, Chair 510-741-8066 diannelake@yahoo.com

Vegetation

Erin McDermott, Chair erinmcd2004@yahoo.com

Outreach (vacant)**Education** (vacant)**EBCNPS Sponsored Activities****Book & Poster Sales**

Joanne Orengo greentheglobe@juno.com

Grant Awards

Sandy McCoy sandymccoy@mindspring.com

Native Here Nursery

510-549-0211 Manager—Charli Danielsen nativehere@ebcnps.org Sales—Margot Cunningham bunchgrassmarg@gmail.com

Seed Collection—Gregg Weber
510-223-3310

Plant Fair
Gudrun Kleist
510-222-2320
gkleist@sbcglobal.net
and Charli Danielsen
Coordinators

Restoration Projects

Leaders:
Huckleberry—Janet Gawthrop

Point Isabel—Tom and Jane Kelly
510-704-8628 (w)
510-684-6484 (c)
kyotousa@sbcglobal.net
Strawberry Creek—Tom and Jane Kelly

Officers and Committee Chairs serve on the Board.

Committees are formed based on chapter needs and the interests of volunteers. Proposals for committees and projects are welcome and will be considered by the Board.

ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

California Gardens: Beauty & Sustainability With Native Plants. A one-day symposium on native plant gardening and design on Saturday, February 19, 2011, 9am to 6pm at Foothill College Appreciation Hall, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills, CA.

Talks by California's leading horticulturists and designers: Bart O'Brien, Bernard Trainor, David Fross, Dr. Glenn Keator, Judith Lowry, Nevin Smith, and Paul Kephart. Plus: Plant Sale, Book Sale, and more.

Organized by the California Native Plant Society (Santa Clara Valley Chapter). Hosted by Foothill College Environmental Horticulture Department. Sponsored by Santa Clara Valley Water District and Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency. Registration opens November 11, 2010. Space is limited: early registration recommended. For more information and registration: <http://symposium.cnps-scv.org>.

CSU, Chico to Host Northern California Botanists' 2011 Symposium. The Northern California Botanists Symposium – "Northern California Plant Life – Wonder, Discovery, Concern", will be held on January 10-11, 2011 at Bell Memorial

Union on the Chico State campus. For complete information on the symposium, go to our website at www.norcalbotanists.org/symposia/symposium2011.htm or call Gail Kuenster at (530) 570-5196.

Wayne Roderick Lectures for December and early January. Lectures are Saturday mornings, 10:30 at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Wildcat Canyon Road and South Park Drive in Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. Free. See http://www.ebparks.org/parks/vc/botanic_garden.

Dec. 4 Flora of the New Mexico Rockies – Dick O'Donnell
Dec. 11 California Indian baskets — new findings in anthropology and botany – Ralph Shanks
Dec. 18 Images from the flora of the arid lands east of the Sierran crest – Aaron Schusteff

Jan. 8 Studies in two famous serpentine genera, *Hesperolinon* and *Streptanthus*, from Red Mtn. in Mendocino County to Laguna Mtn. in San Benito – Dick O'Donnell

**California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley CA 94705**

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December 2010 issue**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Restoration. (see page 3).

Sunday, December 5, 9:00 am: Sibley Regional Park.

Saturday, December 11, 9:30 am: Huckleberry Preserve.

Field Trip (see page 3).

Sunday, January 2, 2:00 pm: Huddart County Park.

Native Here Nursery (see page 5). **Native Here hours will be different for the month of December, 2010.**

Tuesdays will be the usual hours of noon to 3 pm;

Fridays will be the usual hours of nine am to noon;

Saturdays December 4, 11, 18 will be the usual hours of ten am to two pm.

We will be closed Saturday, December 25 and Saturday, January 1;

Sunday, December 12 and Sunday, December 19 we will be open from noon to 3 pm for your holiday shopping convenience!

Chapter Board Elections: please mail your ballot so it arrives by January 8

For late breaking news and events, join the chapter announcement mailing list by visiting <http://groups.google.com/group/ebcnps> and clicking on Join this group. Email traffic is low and limited to official chapter announcements. For the latest activities of the Conservation Committee check out <http://ebcnps.wordpress.com/>.

You can add yourself to the CNPS eNewsletter mailing list for current news about CNPS. The mailings are approximately monthly. Look under Publications on the cnps.org website or go to <https://cnps.org/cnps/publications/news/index.php>.

Membership Application and Renewal Form

Name _____

Membership category:

Address _____

Individual, \$45

Zip _____ Telephone _____

Family, Library, Group or International, \$75

Email _____

Plant lover, \$100

I wish to affiliate with:

Patron, \$300

Benefactor, \$600

Mariposa Lily, \$1500

Limited Income or student, \$25.00

Other _____

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816